RESOLUTION OF THE JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF YOUTH DETENTION POPULATION MANAGEMENT

This Resolution is entered into this 21st day of April, 2014, between Jefferson County District Court, Administrative Office of the Courts, Family and Juvenile Services Department, the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice, the Louisville Jefferson County Public Defender Corporation, and the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government, acting by and through its County Attorney and the Department of Youth Detention Services (YDS).

Whereas, the juvenile justice system exists to enhance public safety, to hold young offenders accountable, and to develop their abilities in order to make positive changes in their lives; and

Whereas, research has demonstrated that implementation of evidence-based and data-driven practices in the juvenile justice system can result in a reduction in recidivism and system costs while maintaining public safety; and

Whereas, research has demonstrated that the secure detention and incarceration of youth can have severe detrimental effects on youth; and

Whereas, youth detention is the only statutorily mandated service for the preadjudicative phase of a youth's court involvement;

Whereas, the detention population is affected by policy decisions made across the entire juvenile justice system; and

Whereas, the stakeholders agree to adopt the following definition of detention:

According to KRS 600.020(20), detention is defined as "the safe and temporary custody of a juvenile who is accused of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the court who requires a restricted environment for his or her own or the community's protection." Consistent with this definition, the following are adopted as the primary purposes for the use of pre-adjudicative detention:

- 1) To detain youth deemed to be high risk to commit a new offense, and
- 2) To detain youth deemed to be at high risk for failure to appear for scheduled court hearings.

Therefore, be it resolved that the undersigned Juvenile Court System Stakeholders in the Louisville Metro criminal justice system, have reached consensus on the following recommended actions to manage the population of Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services and enhance system support services during the pre-adjudicative phase of a juvenile's court involvement:

- Collect, analyze and disseminate data on the juvenile population to identify trends and factors contributing to increases in the youth detention population.
- Manage a reduced maximum youth detention population of 64.
- Encourage utilization of alternatives to detention in lieu of secure detention confinement by judges in accordance with departmental policy, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Anne E. Casey Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) national best practice standards.
- Encourage increased utilization of the Court Designated Worker Diversion Program to provide supervision and services for youth with misdemeanant and school related charges to prevent court involvement.
- Encourage increased Jefferson County Attorney and JCPS school related offense referrals to the Restorative Justice program.
- Utilization of validated risk assessment instruments to reduce secure detention confinement while ensuring public safety and attendance at future arraignment.
- Allow juveniles to be released on alternatives to detention programs during evenings and weekends based on the risk assessment instruments.
- Collect and analyze data to evaluate outcomes, including failure to appear and reoffense rates, based on the identified youth detention population management strategies.
- Educate the public on systemic efforts to reduce the secure detention of juveniles while maintaining public safety and expanding alternatives to secure detention.

Mike O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

Rachel Bingham, Executive Officer Family and Juvenile Services Administrative Office of the Courts

Judge Deana McDonald Jefferson District Court Daniel Goyette, Chief Public Defender Louisville Jefferson County

Public Defender Corporation

Judge Ann Bailey Smith Jefferson District Court

Clarence Williams, Director

Louisville Metro

Youth Detention Services

David Nicholson
Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk

Hasan Davis, Commissioner Kentucky Dept. of Juvenile Justice

Steve Conrad, Chief

Louisville Metro Police Department

Kim Allen, Director

Louisville Metro Criminal Justice

Commission